

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 83ISLAMA002685

ADP943
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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-01 SS-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 IO-15 NEA-06 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00
HA-08 PM-09 INRE-00 SP-02 SR-06 /085 W
-----376005 130751Z /21

D 130746Z FEB 83
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1340
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR POUCH

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DEPT FOR RP AND AID/FFP

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SREF, EAID, WFP
SUBJECT: WFP STUDYING ESTABLISHMENT OF FOOD AID PROGRAM
IN IRAN.

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. TOLD REF-
COUNS AND VISITING RP REFUGEE OFFICER BAZALA FEBRUARY
10 THAT GOVERNMENT OF IRAN HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN
ESTABLISHMENT OF FOOD AID TO AFGHAN
REFUGEES IN IRAN. AND

TO STUDY PRO-
POSALS IN ROME AND REVIEW SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN IRAN.

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3. WFP/ISLAMABAD CITED THE FIGURES 50,000-
70,000 AS THE "HARD CORE" OF "UNASSIMILABLE" AFGHAN
REFUGEES IN IRAN THAT WOULD BE THE INITIAL BENEFICI-
ARIES OF ANY WFP PROGRAM THERE. THEY ARE THOUGHT TO BE
IN THE ZAHEDAN-ZABOL AREA AND IN THE VICINITY OF BANDAR
ABBAS. COMMENT. APPARENTLY WFP STUDIED THE POSSIBILITY

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR.

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE *8/2/86*

PROCESSED AND FORWARDED TO THE
ATTN: *[illegible]*
DATE: *[illegible]*
BY: *[illegible]*
PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS *in part B1.3a.9*

B1a9

B1a9

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OF SETTING UP A PROGRAM FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES IN IRAN IN 1981. BUT IT FELL APART WHEN WFP WAS UNABLE TO ASCERTAIN THE NUMBER OF AFGHAN REFUGEES THERE. WE HAVE SEEN FIGURES RANGING FROM 30,000 (THE "IRREDUCIBLE MINIMUM" CITED BY A PAKISTANI DIPLOMAT WHO WAS RECENTLY IN IRAN) TO THREE MILLION (A FIGURE ALLEGEDLY RECENTLY USED BY BBC) FOR THE NUMBER OF AFGHAN REFUGEES IN IRAN. OUR CURRENT "EDUCATED GUESS" IS THERE ARE BETWEEN 600,000 AND 700,000 AFGHAN REFUGEES IN IRAN. END COMMENT.

4. BAZALA ASKED: WHAT WOULD BE THE NATIONALITY OF WFP PERSONNEL THAT MIGHT BE ON THE MISSION TO IRAN (CURRENT U.S. POLICY PRECLUDES U.S. NATIONALS TRAVELING TO IRAN AT THIS TIME).

B1 a9
B1 a5/9

5. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ROME CAN DEVELOP ON THIS MISSION.

6. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. SPIERS

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